FAQ

FY20 TEACH Technology Information Infrastructure Grant

School Districts

[FY20 TEACH Infrastructure Grants](#)

Is my district eligible for the FY20 TEACH Infrastructure grant if we applied for the FY18 or FY19 Infrastructure grant?
FY20 is a new year of funding for the TEACH Infrastructure grant. Please see the Eligible List for the maximum amount of funding your district is eligible to receive.

When will districts be notified of their FY20 TEACH Infrastructure grant award.
TEACH expects to notify districts of their FY20 TEACH Infrastructure grant award by February 20, 2020. Any updates to this date will be shared at [FY20 TEACH Infrastructure Grants](#).

What is TEACH?
The Technology for Educational ACHievement (TEACH) is a program in the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA), Division of Enterprise Technology (DET) [(s.16.99, Wis. Stats)](#). The DOA works to promote the efficient, cost-effective procurement, installation, and maintenance of educational technology. TEACH services began in October 1997. The program is funded through the State **Universal Service Fund**.

What is the purpose of the Information Technology Infrastructure Grant?
Per s. 16.996, Wis. Stats, TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure grants are available to provide technology infrastructure to improve the capacity of school districts that have 16 or fewer students per square mile to utilize technology for instruction. Districts that have the greatest percentage of free or reduced-price lunch will be given funding priority.

What is my district's maximum award amount?
- If the membership of the eligible school district is fewer than 750 pupils, $30,000.
- If the membership of the eligible school district is 750 pupils to 1,500 pupils, $40 multiplied by the school district's membership.
- If the membership of the eligible school district is more than 1,500 pupils, $60,000.

How do I determine what my district's E-rate discount rate is?
Discount rate information can be found in the following locations: 1) Eligible Districts list at [FY20](#)

[TEACH Infrastructure Grants](#) and 2) "District Data" tab of the FY20 Grant Application (Excel Workbook).

My district would like to purchase more than 8 different types for infrastructure and/or services. The applications only allow 8 entries. What should I do?
Right click on FY20 Application tab. Select Move or Copy to make a copy of the Application tab. Be sure to check the Make a Copy box. Continue entering information on the newly created tab for the remaining types of infrastructure and/or services your district would like to purchase.

What happens if districts have the same free or reduced-priced lunch percentage in the event there are no more funds available? How will funding priority be assigned?
Funds would be prorated for those districts and remaining districts with lesser free or reduced-priced lunch percentages will not be funded.

How will TEACH Technology Information Infrastructure grants be distributed?
Grants will be awarded in order of greatest percentage of free or reduced lunch price per s. 16.996, Wis. Statutes.

What happens if agencies have the same free or reduced-price lunch percentage in the event there are no more funds available? How will funding priority be assigned? Funds would be prorated for those agencies with the same free or reduced-price lunch percentage. The remaining agencies with a lesser free or reduced-price lunch percentage will not be funded.

Please define assessment.
Assessments are evaluation of infrastructure to determine suitability for the needs of the school district. In general, assessments are one-time events. In cases of significant changes to an infrastructure system, an additional assessment may be warranted. Justification of additional assessments will be required. Additional assessments must be approved by TEACH.

Please define Cybersecurity.
Cybersecurity is the body of technologies, processes and practices designed to protect networks, computers, programs and data from attack, damage or unauthorized access.

What should be considered in a Cybersecurity Assessment RFP or request for bids and services?
Vendors performing security assessments should have industry recognized certifications, and practices should align with NIST standards. NIST publication Cybersecurity Framework Version 1.1 outlines the recommended practices regarding defining a cybersecurity framework within an organization.

1) Define the scope of the Assessment
    a. Provide inventory of physical assets
    b. Provide inventory of software assets

2) Review Security Controls
    a. Access Control policies (including Administrative users)
    b. Physical Security policies
    c. Password policies

d.　Malware protection
　　　　e.　Spam filtering/Content filtering
　　　　f.　Server/Workstation secure configurations
　　　　g.　Network Device Configuration (switches, firewalls, routers, wireless, voice)
　　　　h.　Patch Management (including signatures)
　　　　i.　Data protection and recovery
　　　　j.　Monitoring and Auditing practices
　　　　k.　User Security Awareness Training
　　　　l.　Incident Response and Management

　3)　Identify and Document Vulnerabilities
　　　　a.　Identify and document potential vulnerabilities in firewalls, routers, switches, servers, workstations, and applications.
　　　　b.　Identify and document security risks based on insecure configurations (security controls for: ports, protocols, services)
　　　　c.　Provide vulnerability reporting including CVSS Severity ratings
　　　　d.　Provide configuration remediations base on best practices
　　　　e.　Provide mitigation strategy recommendations and priority for all security risks

Agencies should consider including the following language in any RFPs, request for bids, and contracts for cybersecurity assessments:

> *"The winning vendor will be excluded from bidding on any cybersecurity remediations recommended as part of the cybersecurity assessment."*

Please define Data Security.
Data security refers to protective digital privacy measures that are applied to prevent unauthorized access to computers, databases and websites. Data security also protects data from corruption.

Please define Network Assessment.
Network assessment is the reviewing of an organization's existing IT infrastructure, management, security, processes, and performance. This helps identify opportunities for improvement and gives a complete picture of the IT scenario within the organization as well; it helps decision makers strategize in a better way.

What happens if the assessment is that a district is not ready for the infrastructure they have applied for?
If a district is assessed (see Readiness Rubric) as not being ready to utilize a specific piece of infrastructure they have applied for, then that piece of infrastructure will not be funded this fiscal year.

Other infrastructure they are assessed as being ready for will be funded. DOA has the responsibility to ensure the TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure funds are distributed judiciously. Although a district may not be considered ready for a piece of infrastructure at the time of application, DOA encourages districts to leverage available E-Rate funding to increase their level of readiness.

Are service or data plans for Hotspots/Portable Devices eligible?
No, service or data plans for Hotspots/Portable Devices are not eligible for reimbursement with the FY19 TEACH Infrastructure grant. Service and data plans are not on the FY20 List of Eligible Equipment &

Services. Per s.16.9945 (1), Wis. Stats, only the purchase and installation of portable devices/hotspots are allowed. Data and service plans offered at "no cost" may not be included in the cost of the portable devices/hotspots. TEACH will reimburse for portable device and hotspot hardware only.

What is the deadline for making purchases?
Grantees must purchase approved items within 2 years of their FY20 TEACH Infrastructure award date. The award date is expected to be in February 2020, so items must be purchased by March 15, 2022.

What are the eligible dates for infrastructure purchases?
Eligible Infrastructure and Services from FY20 List for the FY20 TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure Grant must be purchased between July 1, 2019 and March 2022. Grant awards to districts are expected to be in February 2020, so all items must be purchased by March 15, 2022.

Can I purchase infrastructure not listed on the FY20 List of Eligible Equipment and Services?
No, only items on FY20 List of Eligible Equipment and Services may be purchased under the FY20 TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure Grant.

When will the TEACH Infrastructure grant end?
The state statutes provide funding for the TEACH Infrastructure Grant in FY20. There are no funding provisions after FY20.

Can I submit the Excel Spreadsheet instead of printing and scanning?
Districts may not submit the Excel Spreadsheet. With the volume of applications expected, TEACH does not have capacity to timely review applications and handle formatting and printing issues. Districts who submit a spreadsheet may be requested to resubmit.

What is "Readiness" and how do I determine if my agency's level of readiness?
The FY19 TEACH Infrastructure grant requires agencies to be ready to utilize the infrastructure purchased. The Benefit Date is the first date students or patrons are expected to receive benefit from the requested infrastructure. If the Benefit Date is less than or equal to 2 years after the purchase date, then agencies are considered ready. Agencies should enter dates for purchase, installation and estimated benefit on the FY20 Application, not the level of readiness. This allows TEACH to ensure the Estimated Benefit Date meets the application requirements for readiness.

Once the amount of time between the Purchase Date and the Estimated Benefit Date is determined, agencies can use the Benefit Date Rubric to ensure their agency is ready – most ready, ready or less ready. If the amount of time between the Purchase Date and Estimated Benefit Date is greater than 2 years, the agency is considered "not ready" for that piece of infrastructure and it will not be reimbursed with the FY19 TEACH Infrastructure grant.

Benefit Date Rubric	0 - 3 months	Most Ready
	3 - 6 months	
	6 - 9 months	Ready
	9 - 12 months	
	12 - 18 months	Less Ready
	18 months - 2 years	
	> 2 years	Not Ready

What happens if the assessment is that an agency is not ready for specific infrastructure?

If an agency is assessed (see Benefit Date Rubric above) as not being ready to utilize a specific piece of infrastructure, then that piece of infrastructure will not be funded. Other infrastructure they are assessed as being ready for will be funded.

DOA has the responsibility to ensure the TEACH Information Technology Infrastructure funds are distributed judiciously. Although an agency may not be considered ready for a piece of infrastructure at the time of application, DOA encourages agencies to leverage available E-Rate funding to increase their level of readiness.

I need help understanding the application process and/or completing my application. What should I do?

Staff of the TEACH grant program are available to assist you. Please contact teach@wi.gov or call 608-261-5054. teach.wi.gov is also available. Listening sessions will be offered early to mid-November. Agencies will be notified of dates and times via email and/or on the TEACH website.

When are the FY20 TEACH Infrastructure grant applications due?

FY20 TEACH Infrastructure grant applications are due by 11:59 pm on Friday, December 13, 2019. Late applications will not be considered.

Where do I submit my agency's FY20 TEACH Infrastructure grant application?

Please email the completed application to teach@wi.gov by 11:59 pm on Friday, December 13, 2019. Please contact TEACH (teach@wi.gov or 608-261-5054) if your agency would like to mail the application. Emailed applications are preferred. Late applications will not be considered.